

City Council approves 2014 budget

By Doug Sloper
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The City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 7:30 p.m. All council members were present.

Mayor Scott Schultz called the budget hearing to order at 7:30 p.m. With no citizens present to give any input, a vote was called for by the mayor. The results were: Paula Keller, no; Dale Weeks, yes; Roger Jensen, yes; Carla Lampe, yes; Bruce Swihart, yes. The vote was recorded as four yes votes and one no. The 2014 budget was passed.

Police report

Shane Guggenmos, chief of police, reported on the number of incidents where the city police had been called out. He also brought up the issue of on-call pay for the officers that are expected to be available during off hours.

He pointed out that an officer on a rotating basis not on duty is considered being on-call, as a potential backup to the on duty officer. They are paid even when they are not being called out. After discussion with the council, Superintendent J.R. Landenberger pointed out that his department is expected to be on-call for any city emergencies that can arise. He requested that this department be given the same on-call consideration as the police department.

After more discussion the council requested that the two department heads bring on-call statistics and policies to the next meeting for further discussion.

Bandshell

Mayor Schultz has signed the contract for Phisny to begin work on the bandshell in the park. The finalized signed contract has not been returned to the city by Phisny.

Property cleanup

Mr. Landenberger reported that 16 weed letters have been sent out. We haven't had much rain recently, but when we do the first thing that pops up is the weeds, he said.

He reported that he has had no response from Royce Neitzel regarding the issues with the trees on his property, which are becoming a danger to the city power lines. Discussion continued with several council members pointing out that Mr. Neitzel has been given more than enough time to remedy the situation. After more discussion it was finally decided that Mr. Neitzel will be given 30 days to act or the city will take action.

Council member Roger Jensen brought up the subject that he has noticed many dead trees or trees with dead limbs throughout the town that could cause injury or property damage if the limbs or tree came down during bad weather. He thought the city should begin addressing this issue.

Attorney Mike Day and Superintendent Landenberger will draft an ad to put the properties at 426 and 430 Emerson Street up for sale again.

Pool report

Council member Bruce Swihart reported that the pool will close on August 18 at 5:30 p.m.

The new pool committee continues to meet with local and county officials to discuss the options, including financing, that would be needed to build a new pool. Options discussed were raising money through a bond initiative, amongst others. The new pool committee has met with the county commissioners and will meet soon with members of the school board.

Superintendent's report

Superintendent Landenberger reported that he is looking into a replacement trash truck. The cost for the truck will be about \$100,000. The cost will come out of the equipment reserve money.

He is looking into a company to sandblast and repaint the pool. Since there are many layers of paint, sandblasting is a necessity. This issue will be addressed either this fall or spring, said Landenberger.

The fence around well number

7 will need to be replaced at a cost of \$1,300.

The scooter mower engine has broken down. Repairs will cost around \$2,000.

Fire hydrant tests were done and the results showed that seven hydrants were in bad condition, five hydrants will need work, and two are in very bad condition. The cost will be \$8,000-\$10,000 to repair.

Council approved millings for the Keller Pond road and Lorraine street. The cost was estimated at \$5,560.

The Recreation Commission requested they be allowed to put up a fence on the North, East and West sides of the sand volleyball to keep the ball from going out into the traffic on the angle road. J.R. approved the request.

Cheyenne County has expressed an interest in buying the spare police car from the city. The Kelly Blue book value is \$6,800. Chief Guggenmos pointed out that due to this being a police vehicle, with many more extras than a regular vehicle, \$10,000 would be a fair price. This is based on other vehicles that he has seen sold in the past with the same options that are on this vehicle. The chief volunteered to talk to the county

regarding this purchase.

Attorney report

Attorney Day presented two ordinances for council approval, ordinance 588 and 589.

Ordinance 588 states: "An ordinance regulating public offenses within the corporate limits of the St. Francis; incorporating by reference the "Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas cities," edition of 2013, amending section 101 of article 11 of 5h3 2003 code of the city of St. Francis, Kansas and repealing ordinance no. 586." The ordinance was passed unanimously by city council.

Ordinance 589 states: An ordinance regulating traffic within the corporate limits of the City of St. Francis; incorporating by reference the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas cities," edition of 2013 amending section 101 of article 14 of the 2003 code of the city of St. Francis, Kansas and repealing ordinance no. 587." The ordinance was passed unanimously by the city council.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the city council is set for 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 26, in city hall on Main Street. Council meetings are open to the public to attend.

Quartet comes to sing

You don't want to miss the gospel quartet, "The Down East Boys", being sponsored by the Bird City Churches on Aug. 31, at 5 p.m. Weather permitting it will be at the Bird City park. In case of bad weather it will be held at the Legion Hall. It's all free and hamburgers and hot dogs will be served.

"The Down East Boys" quartet has been performing for over 25 years, and have traveled from coast to coast, and in Canada and Mexico, starting out in North Carolina. In 1990, the group was honored with the Singing News Fan Award for Horizon Group of the Year. In 1994, the founding member and owner, Sherrell Futral, retired from the road and the lead singer, Ricky Carden, took over as owner and manager. Through the years, they performed with Billy Graham Evangelical Association, Franklin Graham, Ralph Bell and Jim Wilson. They also began working for the Southern Baptist Convention, performing at evangelism conferences around the country.

In their 25 years they have recorded over forty songs for gospel music to their credit.

Their owner, Ricky Carden, says their most recent recording, titled "Amen", is truly a work from our heart. Carden is joined by bass singer Stuart Cary, from Ruston, Louisiana. Daryl Paschal joined the group in 2006, and was nominated as Horizon Individual of the Year by readers of the Singing News that same year and recognized as one of the most recognized baritone singers in the industry. Tony Jarmon joined the group in 2011. He had become an instant hit all over the country, performing with Phil Cross and Poet Voices, Legacy Five and The Old Time Gospel Hour Quartet. He retired from the road, and began working for Dr. Jerry Falwell and Liberty University. Tony possesses one of the most powerful baritone voices in Gospel music.

"The Down East Boys" will be performing in Bird City after performing at the Showboat in Branson, MO. The singing group just recently had a fire and lost their bus. The bus was insured but not the contents, and they lost all their equipment, suits, ties, dress shirts and shoes. A large turnout for their concert would give them a big boost.

Summer Fun



2013 SAINTY SHARKS SWIM TEAM— Back row: Tayton Weeter, Nikolai Paulsen, Taryn Zweygardt, Cassie Cooks, Sophie White, Matt White; middle row: Audrey Meyer, Coy Cassaw, Kattie Wurm, Taige Weeter, Shadryon Blanka, Emma Johnson, Cutter Neitzel, Kiegan Taylor, Lukas Zweygardt, Tylor Snyder; front row: Lyden Lampe, Rhonald Neitzel, Samantha Tancinco, Ashton McAtee, Breck Lohr, Skye Feldman, Talexa Weeter, Bree DeWaal, Dawn Rice. Not pictured: Jesse Baxter, Emily Elfers, Caleb Frink, Christina Frink, Alexis Frink, Connor Keller, Adam Krien, Elle Krien, KC Krien, Luke Lampe, Jayce Landers, Mikayla Matthies, Margi Poling, Corbin Sherlock, Hannah Zimbal and Rian Zimbal.

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2013 GOLF TEAM - Karly Bandel, Kyla Bandel, Mallery Mills and Jesse Baxter.

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- TR Services Inc.
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- United Methodist Thrift Store
- Video Kingdom
- Carl Werner
- Western State Bank
- Wheeler Equity
- Yost Farm Supply
- Yost Ford
- Western Auction and Real Estate

WESTERN KANSAS LAND FOR SALE
Stay tuned for Upcoming Land Auction Notices!

JUST LISTED! Sherman Co., Irrigated Cropland:
SE/4 of 32-8-42 - Immediate Possession, Minerals Included!
Sherman Co., Dryland w/ Lease Option! FOR SALE: NE/4 35-6-42;
FOR LEASE: SE/4 35-6-42 & 160 ac. in N/2 of 2-7-42.
Cheyenne Co CRP: W 1/2 of NE 1/4 & W 1/2 of SE 1/4 of 5-5-37: 160.9 ac.
CRP \$29.92/ac., expires 9/30/2022.

WESTERN KANSAS HOMES FOR SALE
JUST LISTED! 220 Birch, St. Francis: Excellent Brick Ranch Home with
Workshop: 4 BRs 2-3/4 baths, lots of storage! Central heat & air, updated
windows, hot water heat, full basement, attached double car garage, AND a
heated workshop!

- JUST LISTED! 420 Birch, St. Francis:
Single level home, 3 BRs, 2 bath, attached garage on a gorgeous corner lot!
- JUST LISTED! 217 W. Third, Bird City:
Spacious & charming 4 BR home, fenced yard & double car detached garage!
- DRASTIC PRICE REDUCTION! 303 E. Sixth, Bird City:
Single level home w/ 2 BRs, large lot, storage sheds! Call for price!

****MONTHLY ONLINE AUCTION****
ending August 28 - Check our site for lots selling!
In the Tri-State Area - Sell online with us!

westernauctionandrealstate.com
Betty L. Petersen, Broker
Skip Petersen, Sales Agent & Auctioneer ~ 785.332.8221
Robin A. Petersen, Assoc. Broker,
Auctioneer ~ 785.332.5586
Brett Petersen, KS Sales Agent & Auctioneer
Gary L. Wickwar, KS Sales Agent
W. Hwy. 36 ~ P.O. Box 928
St. Francis, Kansas 67756 ~ 785.332.8990

You Don't Want To Miss

Sat., Aug. 31 - 5 p.m.
at the Bird City Park

5 p.m. - Gospel Quartet -
The Down East Boys

7 p.m. - Pastor Todd Burpo,
author of "Heaven Is For Real"

8 p.m. - Becky Purpo leads in Praise & Worship
Hamburgers & Hotdogs will be provided. Please
bring your lawn chairs.

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT TODAY!
(for 3, 5 or 10 months)

Pablo from Spain, 17 yrs. Loves soccer and would like to learn to play baseball. Pablo is a boy scout and enjoys the outdoors.

Julie from Denmark, 16 yrs. Enjoys gymnastics, swimming and photography. She's positive, fun loving and easy to get along with.

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from Italy, France, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Germany, Brazil, Thailand or China as part of your family for a school year (or less) and make an overseas friend for life.

For more information or to select your own exchange student please call:

Jan Busse at 785-734-7031
Marcy at 1-800-888-9040 (Toll Free) or e-mail us at info@world-heritage.org

For privacy reasons, photos above are not photos of actual students

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